


MEMORANDUM

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B&F
Agenda Item No. 6 (A)

TO: Honorable Chairperson Barbara Carey-Shuler, Ed.D. DATE: September 18, 2003
and Members, Board of County Commissioners

FROM:  Kay M. Sullivan, Director
Clerk of the Board

SUBJECT: Approval of Committee Minutes

Attached is the Clerk's Summary of Minutes for the following Budget and Finance Committee meeting for placement on an upcoming committee agenda for approval:

August 7, 2003

KS/cds

Attachment(s)

c: Diane Del Carpio, Assistant Director
Doris Dickens, Senior Commission Reporter
Clara Pimentel, Agenda Supervisor



Stephen P. Clark
Government Center
111 N.W. 1st Street
Miami, FL 33128

CLERK'S SUMMARY OF Meeting Minutes Budget and Finance Committee

Jimmy L. Morales (7), Chairperson; Katy Sorenson (8), Vice Chairperson;
Commissioners Jose "Pepe" Diaz (12), Sally A. Heyman (4), Dennis C. Moss (9), and
Rebeca Sosa (6)

Thursday, August 7, 2003

6:30 PM

City of Aventura Chamber

Members Present: Jimmy L. Morales.

Members Absent: Jose "Pepe" Diaz, Sally A. Heyman, Dennis C. Moss, Katy Sorenson, Rebeca Sosa.

Members Late: None.

Members Excused: None.

1A **ROLL CALL**

Report: *In addition to the Committee Chairperson, the following staff members were present: Ms. Corinne Brody, Special Assistant for Strategic Management Initiatives; Ms. Ruby Hemingway-Adams, Assistant Director, MDT Customer Development; Mr. Ray Scher, Coordinator, Office of Management and Budget; Mr. Michael Spring, Director, Cultural Affairs; and Deputy Clerk, Cheryl Shamsid-Deen.*

1B **WELCOME**

Report: *Chairperson Morales called the meeting to order at 6:49 p.m. He thanked the City of Aventura for hosting today's meeting and recognized City Mayor, Jeff Perlow, Commissioners Ken Cohen and Harry Holzbart, who were present at today's meeting.*

1C INTRODUCTIONS AND ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Report: *Chairperson Morales stated today's meeting was the second meeting of six public meetings the Budget and Finance Committee would bring to the community. He stated that pursuant to the Florida Statutes, the county was required to hold two public hearings on the budget, that were scheduled for September 3, 2003, and September 17, 2003, at 5:00 p.m., at Miami-Dade County Hall. He stated the intent of today's meeting and expounded on the budget process.*

Chairperson Morales acknowledged the presence of Community Council No. 2 members Ken Freedman, Adrienne Promoff, Peggy Stroker, and Sheila Robertson; Glen Gottlieb (phonetic), President, Homeowners Association; and Charles Baron (phonetic) at today's meeting.

2 PUBLIC HEARING

2A 032202 Report

ORAL PRESENTATION - PROPOSED FY 2003-2004
BUDGET AND MULTI-YEAR CAPITAL PLAN (Office of
Management and Budget)

Report: *Mr. Ray Scher, Coordinator, Office of Management and Budget, gave a Powerpoint overview entitled "FY 2003-04 Proposed Budget and Multi-Year Capital Plan". He stated that the proposed budget generally maintained current levels of county services, and was prepared with a results oriented approach to management, financial stability and customer service, and use of technology as a tool based on credible business decisions.*

Mr. Scher stated that the budget consisted of the following six separate budgets:

- Countywide budget*
- UMSA budget (for unincorporated areas)*
- Library District budget*
- Fire District budget*
- Proprietary budgets (departments that generate revenue)*
- Capital funding budget*

Mr. Scher clarified that, with the exception of the UMSA budget, taxpayers residing in a municipality contributed to the foregoing budgets through their property taxes.

In response to Chairperson Morales' inquiry, Mr. Scher addressed county employee position growth. He noted in the proposed budget there were approximately 1,200 more positions than the current fiscal year and approximately 1,000 of these positions were transportation related, for additional bus drivers and capital improvement projects resulting from the Peoples Transportation Plan.

Chairperson Morales clarified that the countywide budget included \$8 million in funding for security costs for the Free Trade Area of the Americas Summit of Ministers being held in November. He noted the importance of this 4-day event in furthering the county's efforts to have the Free Trade Area located in Miami-Dade County. Chairperson Morales indicated the high cost for security was necessary because of the violence associated with this event when held in other areas. He noted additional security costs would

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be expended by the Cities of Miami, Miami Beach, and other communities.

In response to Chairperson Morales' inquiry, a representative from the Fire Department stated that the proposed budget provided for additional fire services in the Aventura area.

Chairperson Morales requested staff consider not increasing certain fees when proposing how savings that may be identified in upcoming studies could be utilized.

3 QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

Report: *Chairperson Morales opened the meeting for public input.*

In response to an inquiry regarding Homeland Security and the impact of Federal mandates on the county budget, Mr. Scher explained that the Miami-Dade Homeland Security Department had been pursuing federal funding to offset added security cost and with the Office of Management and Budget, was attempting to identify the cost of increased security during Code Orange alerts.

Commissioner Morales requested that information regarding the impact of Code Orange alerts on the County's budget be available at the remaining public meetings as well as the September 2003 Budget hearings.

Ms. Janna Bolinger-Heller, Captain, Miami-Dade Police Department, stated that the County would provide any type of specialized emergency services a municipality needed and the cost would be budgeted according to the stipulations of the contract agreement.

In response to an inquiry regarding millage rates, Mr. Scher clarified that each proposed millage rate related to a specific budget, such as the Fire District, the Library District and the countywide budget, and monies had to be used for qualified expenditures.

Chairperson Morales noted the millage rates in the notice of proposed property taxes sent to property owners in August, could not be increased at the final budget hearings, but could be lowered.

Ms. Adrienne Promoff, Chairperson, Community Council No. 2, expressed concern that today's meeting was not an appropriate forum for reviewing Community Council 2's budget requests and recommended that next year, this review be handled as it had in past years.

Chairperson Morales stated the Budget and Finance committee meetings being held throughout the county relating to the budget, were not intended to replace the community council budget process, but rather to receive public input from the communities in unincorporated and incorporated Dade County regarding the FY 2003-

2004 budget. He recommended that the community council members contact staff to address additional concerns.

The following responses were made to the questions raised by Ms. Promoff, representing Community Council 2:

· Mr. Jeff Cohen, Assistant Chief, Traffic Engineering Division, Miami-Dade Public Works Department, stated the department would investigate the lack of visibility of the stop sign located at N.W. 199 Street and 24 Avenue, and take corrective action.

· Mr. Timothy Byrnes, Regional Manager, Miami-Dade Parks and Recreation Department, stated efforts were being made to identify an appropriate site to relocate feral cats in Haulover Park. He noted the county was attempting to control the feeding locations and the people that fed the feral cats, in Haulover Park, and was working with the Cat Network to find a relocation site for the cats. He stated he would provide Community Council No. 2 with additional information regarding the status of the county's plans to control feral cats.

· A representative from the Miami-Dade Public Works Department confirmed that the replacement of the trees located along N.W. 22nd Avenue between Miami Gardens Drive and N.W. 199 Street, had been completed.

In response to a complaint that the budget package was sent in duplicate to community council members, Chairperson Morales apologized and stated that the county was reviewing the feasibility of providing more information online in an effort to be as paperless as possible.

ADJOURNMENT

Report: *There being no further business to come before the committee, the meeting was adjourned at 7:41 p.m.*

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